

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 5 and cancel claim 6, as follows.

Listing of Claims

1. (WITHDRAWN) An automotive interior trim assembly, comprising:

a substrate member forming at least part of a structural support of the trim assembly and having at least one target area for providing a soft feel to the trim assembly; and

a cover member supported on said substrate member, proximate said target area, said cover member having a hardness that is relatively lower than said substrate member and comprising an inner compressible layer and an outer pliable layer encasing said inner layer.

2. (WITHDRAWN) The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said substrate member is formed from one of thermoplastic olefin, acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, styrene maleic anhydride, and polycarbonate/ acrylonitrile butadiene styrene alloy.

3. (WITHDRAWN) The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said inner layer of said cover member is formed from thermoplastic elastomer foam.

4. (WITHDRAWN) The trim assembly of claim 1 configured as an instrument panel for an automobile.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of forming an automotive interior trim assembly in a two-shot molding operation, the method comprising:

~~injecting a first material to form~~ forming a substrate member defining one of an automotive instrument panel, an interior door trim panel, an armrest, or a console by injecting a first material during the first shot of the molding operation; [[and]]

co-injecting second and third materials onto the substrate member to form a cover member on the substrate member during the second shot of the molding operation, wherein the second material is an outer pliable layer and the third material is an inner compressible layer; and

covering the inner compressible layer with the outer pliable layer during the co-injecting step.

6. (CANCELED)

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the first material is one of thermoplastic olefin, acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, styrene maleic anhydride, and polycarbonate/ acrylonitrile butadiene styrene alloy.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the second material is thermoplastic elastomer.

Application No. 10/708,312
Reply to Office Action of September 18, 2006
Response dated December 20, 2006

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the third material is thermoplastic elastomer foam.